

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A rotary ring for use in a scale reading apparatus, comprising:  
  
a continuous flexible ring having scale markings provided on a surface thereof, the flexible ring being sufficiently flexible to self-retain about a ~~rotary~~circular machine part solely by elastic deformation of at least one portion thereof.

2. (Currently Amended) A system for mounting a rotary ring for use in a scale reading apparatus onto a ~~rotary~~circular machine part, comprising the rotary ring of claim 1 and co-operating means on one or both of said ~~rotary~~circular machine part and said rotary ring, said co-operating means comprising a region of increased diameter.

3-20. (Canceled)

21. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 2, wherein the cooperating means is located on the ~~rotary~~circular machine part, and wherein the region of increased diameter is integral with the ~~rotary~~circular machine part.

22. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 2, wherein the cooperating means is located on the ~~rotary~~circular machine part, and wherein the region of increased diameter is not integral with the ~~rotary~~circular machine part.

23. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 2, wherein the region of increased diameter comprises an annular protrusion.

24. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 2, wherein the region of increased diameter comprises a tapered surface.

25. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 2, wherein the flexible ring is provided with a tapered surface.

26. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 2, wherein at least one of the region of increased diameter and the rotary ring is provided with a tapered surface and forms a self locking taper.

27. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 22, wherein the region of increased diameter comprises a ring-shaped flexible member.

28. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 2, wherein the region of increased diameter is shaped so that when the flexible ring is fitted over said region of increased diameter, a central region of said rotary ring is substantially parallel with the axis of said ~~rotary~~circular machine part.

29. (Currently Amended) A method of mounting a flexible rotary scale, in the form of a continuous ring, onto a ~~rotary~~circular machine part, the method comprising:  
stretching or shrinking the flexible rotary scale onto the ~~rotary~~circular machine part.

30. (Currently Amended) A method of mounting a flexible rotary scale onto a ~~rotary~~circular machine part according to claim 29, wherein the ~~rotary~~circular machine part has a region of increased diameter and the method includes the step of stretching or shrinking the flexible rotary scale over the region of increased diameter.

31. (Currently Amended) A method of mounting a flexible rotary scale onto a ~~rotary~~circular machine part according to claim 29, wherein the region of increased diameter is integral with the ~~rotary~~circular machine part.

32. (Currently Amended) A method of mounting a flexible rotary scale onto a ~~rotary~~circular machine part according to claim 29, wherein the region of increased diameter is not integral with the ~~rotary~~circular machine part.

33. (Currently Amended) A method of mounting a flexible rotary scale onto a ~~rotary circular~~ machine part according to claim 29, wherein the region of increased diameter comprises an annular protrusion.

34. (Currently Amended) A method of mounting a flexible rotary scale onto a ~~rotary circular~~ machine part according to claim 29, wherein the region of increased diameter comprises a tapered surface.

35. (Currently Amended) A method of mounting a flexible rotary scale onto a ~~rotary circular~~ machine part according to claim 29, wherein the flexible rotary scale is provided with a tapered surface.

36. (Currently Amended) A method of mounting a flexible rotary scale onto a ~~rotary circular~~ machine part according to claim 29, wherein at least one of the region of increased diameter and the flexible rotary scale is provided with a tapered surface that forms a self locking taper.

37. (Currently Amended) A method of mounting a flexible rotary scale onto a ~~rotary circular~~ machine part according to claim 32, wherein the region of increased diameter comprises a ring-shaped member.

38. (Currently Amended) A method of mounting a flexible rotary scale onto a ~~rotary circular~~ machine part according to claim 29, wherein the region of increased diameter is shaped so that when the flexible rotary scale is fitted over the region of increased diameter, a central region of the flexible rotary scale is substantially parallel with the axis of the ~~rotary circular~~ machine part.

39. (Currently Amended) A system for mounting a continuous flexible rotary ring for use in a scale reading apparatus onto a ~~rotary circular~~ machine part, comprising a flexible rotary ring having scale markings provided on a surface thereof, wherein a tapered surface is

provided on one or both of said ~~rotary~~circular machine part and said flexible rotary ring, and  
the taper angle of said tapered surface is sufficient to form a self locking taper.